UNITED NATIONS

A E

General Assembly
Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/60
E/1997/6
17 January 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
Substantive session of 1997

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION AND TO YOUTH, AGEING, DISABLED PERSONS AND THE FAMILY

Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 49/154 of 23 December 1994, entitled "Policies and programmes involving youth", the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Member States and youth organizations, to evaluate youth programmes that were developed during the follow-up of International Youth Year and to report to it at its fifty-second session, with a view to ensuring effective implementation of a world programme of action for youth to the year 2000 and beyond. In its resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-second session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

2. The present report is submitted in pursuance of the above-mentioned resolutions. It is based on the replies to a questionnaire received from Member States, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with youth. In addition, other material was used to prepare the report, in particular the statements made by delegates of the General Assembly at its fiftieth session in a segment devoted to the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year.

3. Youth-related concerns are also reflected in programmes of action adopted by three major world conferences held in 1995: the Copenhagen Programme of Action adopted by the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 6-12 March), the Conclusions and Recommendations adopted by the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Cairo, 29 April-8 May) and the Beijing Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (Beijing, 1-15 September).

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR YOUTH TO THE YEAR 2000 AND BEYOND

A. National level

4. The World Programme of Action for Youth urges Governments that have not already done so to formulate and adopt an integrated national youth policy as a means of addressing youth-related concerns. It recommended that such measures be taken as part of a continuing process of review and assessment of the situation of youth, formulation of a cross-sectoral national youth programme of action in terms of specific, time-bound objectives and a systematic evaluation of progress achieved and obstacles encountered. It further indicated that reinforcing youth-related concerns in development activities can be facilitated through the existence of multilateral mechanisms for consultation, dissemination of information, coordination, monitoring and evaluation. It stated that such activities should be cross-sectoral in nature and multidisciplinary in approach and should include the participation of youth-related departments and ministries, national non-governmental youth organizations and the private sector. It also called for national coordinating mechanisms to be appropriately

strengthened for integrated national youth policies and programmes. Where such mechanisms do not exist, Governments are urged to promote their establishment on a multi-level and cross-sectoral basis.

5. Table 1 provides a summary of those actions (see below and annex I for country details). Much of this action has been undertaken by Governments since International Youth Year in 1985. It should be recalled that nearly 100 Governments adopted national youth policies for the first time and set up national youth coordinating committees for the Year. A great part of renewed action now can be traced back to such bodies, which initiated national youth policies and national youth service programmes in 1985.

6. Out of a total of 185 Member States, table 1 indicates that 144, or 78 per cent of that total, had formulated a national youth policy of a cross-sectoral character. Two years ago, a similar survey on the implementation of the Guidelines of the 1985 International Youth Year had revealed 141 Member States or 77 per cent had taken such action. Similarly, there was no major change in the number or percentage of Member States that had designated a national youth coordinating mechanism: 164 or 89 per cent of the total. That was the same number and percentage cited in 1994. However, the major change concerns the number or percentage of Member States that have implemented a national youth programme of action: 73, or 40 per cent of the total. That represented an increase of 19 such Member States and a 10 per cent increase of the total (up from 54 or 29 per cent in 1994).

Table 1. Summary of actions taken by Governments to implement the World Programme of Action for Youth

Categories	Number	Percentage
Countries that have formulated a national youth policy (cross-sectoral)	144	78
Countries that have designated a national youth coordinating mechanism (ministry, department, council, committee, etc.)	164	89
Countries that have implemented a national youth programme of action (operational, voluntary services)	73	40
Countries that have taken all three types of action to implement the Programme	58	31

7. The following sections provide surveys of government action to formulate a national youth policy, a national youth coordinating mechanism, and a national youth programme of action.

1. National youth policy

AFRICA

8. Recognizing that youth, as a distinct segment of the Botswana society has special characteristics, problems, needs and interests, the Government of Botswana has formulated a national youth policy that will serve as a framework for youth development. It is envisaged that young women and men will be given every opportunity to reach their full potential both in their individual capacities as well as active citizens of society. In addition to addressing major concerns and issues, which are critical to young people in Botswana as well as giving direction to youth programmes and services provided by both government and non-governmental organizations, the policy further demonstrates the commitment of the Government to the identification of strategies to alleviate youth problems.

9. Malawi's national youth policy aims to establish, as a distinct sector of government policy, the identity and status of Malawi youth and to create a direction for youth activities and programmes for various interest groups. The policy seeks to address key challenges currently affecting youth such as unemployment, education opportunities, young people's non-involvement in decision-making, AIDS and HIV, crime and youth deviance, teenage pregnancy and drug and alcohol abuse. The policy also advocates the rights and responsibilities of young people and the positive role models provided by adults and parents.

10. The Government of Mali adopted a national youth policy with six objectives: (a) to reinforce youth organizations and the development of their infrastructures for non-formal education; (b) to create conditions for the better integration and participation of youth in rural life; (c) to prevent the social alienation of youth; (d) to promote the social integration of juvenile delinquents; (e) to support the economic and social integration of youth in danger of marginalization; and (f) to promote sports activities for youth.

11. In Mozambique, a national youth policy was approved, whose main objective is to enable both the Government and the civil society to address youth problems, so as to make it more participative in the process of nation building.

12. The Government of South Africa set up a National Youth Commission in 1996 to formulate and coordinate a national youth policy and various programmes to implement it.

13. The national strategy of the Sudan has devoted a full chapter to youth. It enumerates the general principles for promoting youth activities. The strategy has identified five areas for youth: the cultural and intellectual areas; aesthetics, art and literature; science; sports and the military; public social service; and trips, tourist activities and hostels.

14. Tunisia's youth policy is designed to ensure complementarity among the three stages of life (childhood, youth and old age), in order to ensure psychological stability and respect for the values of the community.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

15. Australia's youth social justice strategy was introduced to provide a special focus on youth in the Government's broader social justice strategy. Australia's government policy focuses primarily on the provision of assistance and support to all young people in relation to employment, education and training, financial assistance, housing, health. Principal features of Australia's youth policies are the youth training initiative, which aims to assist early school-leavers through an early intervention strategy and by providing access to case management; labour market programmes and a youth training allowance for unemployed 15- to 17-year-olds; "Austudy", which aims to provide the financial assistance necessary for young people attempting to exercise their right to an education; pilot programmes targeting young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming so; and special pilot projects designed to establish best practice in youth suicide prevention. Based on that work, Australia has developed "A National Youth Policy: A Statement of Principles and Objectives".

16. In Bangladesh, a national youth policy has been adopted to promote the rights of youth, particularly in the areas of education, skills development, employment and participation in community development activities.

17. In China, the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF) has been entrusted by the Government to be in charge of managing and coordinating China's youth affairs. The Government supports and guides the ACYF to manage the work in youth affairs. The ACYF is a united organization of all Chinese youth groups. When necessary, the ACYF is able to cooperate bilaterally or multilaterally with any department, organization or non-governmental group. It also implements youth policies and carries out a series of youth activities so as to raise their citizenship awareness, mobilize and organize them to participate in state development and economic construction, and help them enhance moral character, knowledge, ability and qualities.

18. In India, the Government has set up a Committee on National Youth Programmes chaired by the Prime Minister. The Committee, an advisory body, has members consisting of ministers in charge of various youth-related departments, provincial ministers, Members of Parliament, representatives of political parties, non-governmental youth organizations and young people of various socio-economic backgrounds. This body has assisted the Government to update its National Youth Policy, which acknowledges clearly the role of non-governmental youth organizations as partners in development. In addition, the Government has also supported the creation of youth organizations with large national membership and broad geographic spread across the country. For example, the Nehru Youth Centres (Nehru Yuvak Kendras) have been established in 500 districts out of the total 522 districts in India.

19. The aims and objectives of the national youth policy of Indonesia are: (a) to help foster Indonesia awareness, identity, solidarity and prosperity among youth; (b) to promote policies and programmes relating to youth as an integral part of social and cultural values among the Asian and Pacific nations; and (c) to realize the potential of youth as human resources in regional development. The objectives of the Indonesian Youth Development Strategy towards the Year 2000 and Beyond are: (a) to enhance the quality of education among Indonesian youth; (b) to increase employment opportunities among youth and reduce youth dissocialization; (c) to foster positive and constructive attitudes for youth facing global changes and challenges of modernization; and (d) to prepare Indonesian youth for future leadership in Indonesia and in the Pacific region. The areas of concern are population; education and training; unemployment; housing; environment; social security; crime and drug abuse; AIDS; and youth participation.

20. The Islamic Republic of Iran has established the Supreme Council for Youth to formulate and implement specific programmes based on prevailing needs and priorities and linking both governmental youth-related offices and non-governmental youth organizations. The Council prepared and published "The Educational Charter of the Young Generation" in 1995 and translated and distributed it in several languages in 1996.

21. In Japan, the Committee for the Promotion of Youth Policy, in which the ministries and the agencies involved make contacts or discussions, has been organized since 1990. It formulated "The Guidelines of the Promotion of Youth Policy". As a result, the Government can actively promote youth policies with coordinating measures in various fields such as education, employment, juvenile delinquency, personal development and family welfare.

22. Malaysia has embarked on a development programme for youth called "Rakanmuda". It has been implemented with the close collaboration of government agencies, the private sector and non-governmental organizations.

23. The Government of the Marshall Islands formulated and presented the final draft of the National Policy on Youth on 17 May 1995. This draft is awaiting the legislature's approval before it is implemented.

24. In the Federated States of Micronesia, the national youth policy was established in 1994 when the FSM Youth Development Association was created. Its by-laws defines youth as those persons between 6 and 35 years of age. Nevertheless, the definition of youth still varies, depending on the service criteria of the different service programmes. The voting age is 18 years, while the legal age to consume alcohol is 21. Since approximately 50 percent of the population is below the age of 15 and almost 70 per cent is below the age of 25, the national youth policy of the Federated States of Micronesia is targeted at a major segment of the nation's population. This policy seeks to create an educational, social and economic environment that enables young people to make proper decisions and provides them with opportunities for productive and socially responsible lives.

25. In Niue, the National Planning and Development Office has devised a national development plan that is meant to encompass all components of the Niuean community, including youth.

26. Pakistan has established the Social Action Programme, which addresses the urgent needs of the population, including youth, in the areas of basic education, primary health care, nutrition, water supply and sanitation.

27. The Philippines has adopted a national youth policy that ensures priority attention to the needs and the concerns of young people, based on a review and appraisal of the situation of youth throughout the nation.

28. In the Republic of Korea, the Government has established a comprehensive long-term plan called the 1992-2000 Basic Plan for the Youth of Korea, which has been incorporated into the seventh and eighth half-decade Socio-economic Development Plan.

29. The Government of Thailand addresses the problems of youth through its Seventh Child and Youth Development Plan, 1992-1996. Thailand is now in the process of carrying out studies to lay down the guidelines for the next Child and Youth Development Five-Year Plan, 1997-2001.

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

30. The Federal Government of Canada has a comprehensive range of youth policies and programmes, meeting the needs of young people with respect to health, social well-being, justice, human rights, employment and income security. These complement a wide range of programmes and policies that are the responsibility of provincial and territorial Governments, which have a direct jurisdiction in many areas, including education, health and social programmes. The Government's youth policies have been developed with increasing emphasis on the direct involvement of young people.

31. In 1990, the Government of the Czech Republic adopted a resolution entitled "Basic direction of influence of the State on the young generation in the Czech Republic". The following tasks were defined in it: stability of young families, creation of conditions for the support of employment, development of talented peoples, use of spare time, support of civic associations and social security. In March 1991, the Government passed a resolution on non-governmental associations that focuses on programmes for the support and protection of youth. There are other legislations and resolutions that address issues facing young people such as drug abuse prevention, integration of persons with disability and crime prevention.

32. In Denmark, the National Youth Policy includes legal, political, socio-economic and cultural aspects. The National Youth Policy is cross-sectoral.

33. The Government of Finland has passed a Youth Work Act 235/95. Under section 1, the purpose of the Act is to improve young people's living conditions and create conditions for their civic activity. According to the Act,

ministries must include measures geared to young people in their programmes. The Act assigns the responsibility for coordinating these measures to the Ministry of Education. The Act promotes cross-sectoral cooperation.

34. In Liechtenstein, the legal basis of the national youth policy is the Children and Young Persons Act of 1979. In 1986, the Government commissioned a comprehensive study, which identified the several important objectives of the youth policy: the integration of young persons in all levels of society; their participation in decision-making processes; and the avoidance of any marginalization. In 1995, the Government commissioned for the first time a report on the situation of children and young persons in Liechtenstein containing guidelines for the future youth policy in Liechtenstein.

35. The Government of Malta has established a national youth policy that has been in operation since 1993. The drafting of the policy involved various government ministries such as those for social policy, health and education, as well as the National Youth Council and various individuals in the youth field. The national youth policy has served to produce guidelines for the Ministry responsible for youth affairs and administrators. The national youth policy is a yardstick by which the Ministry measures its rate of progress and is equally so measured by others. The policy functions as a catalyst, spurring Government into embarking on its youth programmes and initiatives.

36. In Romania, the Ministry of Youth and Sport has established objectives for its youth policy, which are based on the three interrelated concepts of education, participation in associations and leisure time. These objectives include actions to increase the participation of young people in economic life; develop young people's creative potential; and promote a training system in order to ensure interaction between the educational system and the labour market.

37. The Russian Federation adopted the decree on Russia's preparations for, and commemoration of, the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, which provided for the formation of an interdepartmental commission and a plan of action aimed at drawing the attention of leaders at all levels to youth problems and the need for their solution.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

38. The Government of the Bahamas has begun the process of drafting components of a national youth policy. This process started after the Government of the Bahamas established a Consultative Committee on National Youth Development in 1992.

39. Jamaica established its national youth policy in 1994. The policy addresses issues such as institutional framework; education and training; employment and empowerment; health; drug abuse; recreation and leisure; values, attitudes and anti-social behaviour; and youth in community and nation building. Prepared by the Jamaican Ministry of Local Government, Youth and Sports, it contained a foreword that acknowledged that the United Nations draft world

programme of action for youth to the year 2000 and beyond served as an important resource material for the preparation of the National Youth Policy.

40. The Government of Montserrat is establishing a national youth policy with the assistance of the Commonwealth Youth Programme.

41. Paraguay has completed the first national youth plan, entitled "The Country We Want". It was submitted to the President of the Republic on 21 September 1995.

42. In Venezuela, the policies directed towards the youth sector can be divided into two major groups: those intended to deal with the problem of integrating youth policies by means of which Venezuela can assume its responsibilities towards youth; and those relating to the participation of young people, for building society through the involvement of youth.

WESTERN ASIA

43. The national youth policy of Bahrain is of an intersectoral policy and includes the work of ministries of the national Government concerned with such issues as youth, sports, education, health, employment, commerce and agriculture. The literacy rate for youth is very high on a comparative basis in the region. Demographic trends indicated that 16 per cent of youth in Bahrain will live in rural areas and 84 per cent will live in urban areas in the year 2000. The median age is estimated to be 27.5 in 2000.

44. In Egypt, the national youth policy has been formulated by the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports in coordination with other youth-related ministries of the Government and in consultation with non-governmental youth organizations. The Council has established policies of youth welfare in various fields (cultural, social and artistic). Young people are eligible to vote at age 18. Demographic trends indicate that 39 per cent of youth in Egypt will live in rural areas and 61 per cent in urban areas by the year 2000. The median age will be 21.6 in 2000. The youth policy in Egypt devotes special attention to disabled youth, rural youth as well as youth in areas with particular difficulties.

45. The national youth policy of the Syrian Arab Republic treats youth as part of integral strategies taking into consideration the nature of the society and the tasks before it. That policy is especially part of the national aims to achieve comprehensive human development together with socio-economic development. This youth policy is coordinated on an inter-ministerial basis and involves two major non-governmental organizations: the National Union of Syrian Students (with a membership composed of students in universities, postgraduate studies and higher and intermediate institutes) and the Revolutionary Youth Union (with a membership of over 1.5 million composed of young workers, rural youth, students with both political and non-political backgrounds, including social, economic, vocational, cultural, touristic, athletic and artistic. Forty per cent are girls).

46. The United Arab Emirates has accorded a high priority, in formulating its national youth policy as well as its national development policies, to the question of youth through the promulgation of legislation and the provision of basic services such as the best possible educational curricula and health and social programmes, free of charge, in line with its national policies and regional and international policies. At the same time, it has striven to preserve the specific nature of its local communities, which derive their teachings from the shariah of Islam and the traditions of this society.

2. National youth programmes of action

AFRICA

47. The Government of Botswana has supported various youth programmes through non-governmental organizations, to address the different needs of young people in Botswana. Examples of youth non-governmental organizations that have been supported by the Government include the Botswana Work Camps Association, the Botswana Family Welfare Association and the Botswana Young Women's Christian Association.

48. Burkina Faso has developed a policy in the field of education to teach human rights and the fundamental principles of the Constitution of Burkina Faso in schools, in centres of professional training and in centres providing functional literacy. The Government has also organized a seminar for the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the national plan for the education of girls. In the field of health and the environment, Burkina Faso has devised and implemented information and education programmes including seminars and lectures on sexually transmitted diseases and environmental preservation. Reforestation camps for young people have been organized.

49. In Malawi, the Government has established multi-skills training centres to provide appropriate skills to young people. The Malawi Youth Credit Initiative will ensure that young people are provided with credit and training packages to enable them to enter viable small business.

50. In Mali, the Government has established a National Youth Service (SNJ), which enables young graduates to work on voluntary service projects.

51. In Mozambique, the national youth programme of action focuses on the following areas: education for family life, action for community life and policy and legislation.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

52. China has several programmes of action for youth such as the Cross-Century Young Talented Personnel Project, the Cross-Century Youth Civilization Project and the Action of Serving Ten Thousand Villages. In addition, China has developed rewarding systems for young people such as the Ten Top Chinese Young People, prominent young entrepreneurs, prominent young township entrepreneurs, young technical pace-setters, young skilful workers at their posts, rural young

shooting star guides, the Chinese young scientist prize and Chinese youth science and technology pioneering prizes. In addition, television and broadcasting stations have developed special programmes about youth and children. More than 100 newspapers and journals have been published specially for youth and children. Chinese Youth News is one of several newspapers and journals that have the widest domestic circulation. Young volunteers have launched a drive of voluntary services to wipe out illiteracy, extend medical care, encourage ecology, promote the law among youth and spread technology and culture. In China, there are 27 national youth and children camp-sites.

53. India has developed youth centres, aimed at focusing on the employment capabilities of rural youth that organize leadership training programmes and social services. India has also developed a National Services Scheme aimed at involving university and high school students in rural reconstruction activities to assist the weaker sections of society.

54. The Government of the Marshall Islands, with the assistance of a consulting mission from the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), developed and approved a National Youth Congress work programme to be the national Government's principal programme for youth and development in the Marshall Islands. The programme helps mobilize youth to participate in national development with the sponsor and financial assistance and support of the Government, churches, other non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the general public. Much of the decision-making of the work programme is decentralized to non-government organizations and local governments, which in turn receive guidance, advice, support and assistance from the national Government.

55. In the Federated States of Micronesia, the Youth Activities Programme is located in the Department of Environmental and Community Health Services. The main objectives of this national youth service programme is: (a) to strengthen partnership and policies for youth throughout the nation; (b) to involve youth in the economic, social, cultural, and religious development of the country; (c) to strengthen youth networking and coordination services; (d) to establish a workable and relevant foundation for youth development; (e) to strengthen and foster youth training programs; (f) to establish and improve relevant programmes to safeguard and rehabilitate youth when and where needed; (g) to establish with and for youth environmental protection strategies within the community; and (h) to develop youth training programmes in the preservation of the cultural heritage of the nation.

56. In India, the Government has set up a national service scheme, which encourages students to undertake voluntary community work without remuneration. Approximately 1.3 million student volunteers are currently participating in this national service. The Government also encourages non-governmental youth organizations to seek financial assistance from it to participate in the Youth Development Week. There is a review of the applicants and a selection of those to receive support.

57. In the New Zealand island of Niue, young people are given opportunities to be represented on village councils and statutory bodies. This is to ensure youth representation at both the village and the national levels.

58. In Singapore, the Government has established a youth development fund, which promotes youth projects.

59. Sri Lanka have taken concerted action to rationalize and coordinate vocational and technical training centres through reforms based on a comprehensive research programme. The Samurdhi programme of Sri Lanka is designed to activate the entrepreneurial potential of the poor. The programme emphasizes measures targeted at rural youth covering areas such as agriculture, skill training, land, industry and food production.

60. In the Philippines, the Government has appointed youth sectoral representatives to its Congress to ensure their full participation in the country's law-making process.

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

61. In Canada, in 1994, the Government introduced the Youth Employment and Learning Strategy, announcing the formation of Youth Service Canada and Student Summer Job Action programmes. The 1996 federal budget reallocated $315 million of savings to help create new youth employment opportunities over the next three years.

62. The Government of the Czech Republic has established the National Information System on Youth (NICEM). This system provides young people with all kinds of important information of interest to them. The Government subsidizes activities of non-governmental organizations in the area of youth participation such as children's parliaments in towns and villages and help to young people with disability.

63. On the basis of its youth policy, Denmark aims to strengthen young people's participation in the decision-making process in daily life, in schools, youth clubs and at the regional and national levels.

64. Finland is preparing its activities in the European Voluntary Service for Young People. The ongoing Youth for Europe programme has been successful and is implemented by the Centre for International Mobility (CIMO).

65. In Georgia, the State Department of Youth Affairs has worked out a four-year state policy programme for youth, confirmed by Presidential Decree No. 332 of May 1996. This programme consists of the following subprogrammes: dissemination of information to youth and the establishment of a centre of scientific research into youth problems; formation of a legislative base for the protection of youth rights; promotion of business; ensuring the social protection of the youth; formation of a system of state support for children and youth organizations; international youth cooperation; ensuring optimal physical and spiritual conditions for youth; support of the youth movement in the protection of the environment; formulation of a system for the elimination of delinquency and anti-social behaviour, current among the youth; training of state employees working on youth problems.

66. Within the framework established by the Children and Young Persons Act, the Government of Liechtenstein conducts various activities aimed at the promotion of youth welfare. There is a variety of non-commercial leisure amenities such as youth centres run by professionals, music and sports clubs, scouts and other youth groups. Efforts are being made to have young people participate in political bodies on the local level.

67. The Government of Malta has set up a series of youth-oriented programmes aimed at increasing participation in voluntary service, enterprise and specialization. Together with local banks it has launched a scheme through which young people obtain unsecured loans in order to launch a business enterprise or to undertake postgraduate or specialization studies abroad. The Department of Youth and Sports subsidizes activities by voluntary youth organizations to benefit community service activities.

68. The Russian Federation carries out its work on youth on the basis of a federal programme called Russia's Youth. The purpose of the Russian national programme is to establish legal, economic and organizational machinery for implementing government youth policies. One of the priority areas of work of the programme is to establish a legislative and legal basis for government youth policies.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

69. The Bahamas has a National Youth Development Programme that encompasses the issue of youth participation and training along with the establishment of coordinating councils. The Bahamas has also established a pilot programme geared towards unemployed school leavers. The programme places emphasis on the empowerment of young women. In addition, the Bahamas has established an industrial training college to help young people to integrate better into society.

70. Barbados has identified a system of appointing a number of youth commissioners responsible for motivating, mobilizing and channelling 80,000 young people. Barbados has developed a Youth Entrepreneurship programme directed at young people who want to pursue self-employment and entrepreneurial activity. This programme provides young people with technical and financial assistance and it is developing a mentor programme that will give those young people the opportunity to consult closely and work with established business persons in the private sector. In addition, the Barbados Youth Service attempts to reach young people by providing a framework of character-building and discipline while still providing skills to encourage their personal development and growth.

71. Peru's youth programme promotes projects mainly in the fields of responsible sexuality, education for peace, prevention of drug abuse, employment counselling and the creation of jobs.

72. Jamaica, in 1995, has reintroduced the National Youth Service, which had strong components of leadership training and remedial education.

73. In Trinidad and Tobago, the greatest priority is attached to training and employment for young people. These programmes include the Youth Training and Employment Partnership and the Apprenticeship Programme and the Apprenticeship for Industrial Mobilization. The Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme comprises a Career Enhancement Project. The Apprenticeship for Industrial Mobilization utilizes on-the-job training techniques as a means of equipping young people. Other approaches adopted by the Government to promote youth employment through training and retraining are youth camps, which offer a wide range of craft and secretarial courses; trade centres, which concentrate on the construction industry and skills related to house maintenance; and youth centres. In addition, the Civilian Conservation Corps offers temporary employment in projects related mainly to the improvement of the environment. The Aided Self-Help Programme and the Small Business Management Programme are both designed to assist young entrepreneurs.

74. In Venezuela, programmes have been established such as job training programmes, youth rehabilitation and supervised recreation, drug prevention programmes, cultural programmes, health programmes and education programmes.

WESTERN ASIA

75. The Syrian Arab Republic has supported the national youth service activities of the Revolutionary Youth Union in eradicating the illiteracy of thousands of citizens in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture for a campaign that aims at eradicating illiteracy before the year 2000, in addition to other volunteer activities, which reflect positively on the progress and development of the country. Several government ministries maintain close relations with youth organizations in two areas: health education, especially with regard to the AIDS disease and the prevention thereof, and the enhancement of environmental awareness to preserve the environment and reduce pollution. These organizations also organize continuous educational campaigns against the devastating scourge of drugs and in the area of crime prevention.

76. In the United Arab Emirates, the Ministry of Youth and Sports serves as the Secretariat for the Arab Federation of Youth Organizations recently established by the League of Arab States (LAS) to promote youth exchanges and service.

B. Regional level

77. The Programme of Action indicated that the activities of the United Nations regional commissions, in cooperation with concerned regional intergovernmental and non-governmental youth and youth-related organizations, are essential complements to both national and global action aimed at building national capacities. Regional commissions, within their existing mandates, were urged to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action through incorporation of its goals in their plans, to undertake comprehensive reviews of the progress achieved and obstacles encountered and to identify options to further regional-level action. The Programme further indicated that regional intergovernmental meetings of ministers responsible for youth, in cooperation with the concerned United Nations regional commissions, regional

intergovernmental organizations and regional non-governmental youth organizations, could make particular contributions to the formulation, implementation, coordination and evaluation of action at the regional level, including periodic monitoring of regional youth programmes.

78. Five United Nations conferences on youth were held for the preparations for International Youth Year (1985) in cooperation with each of the 5 United Nations regional economic commissions and 20 regional meetings of Governmental Ministers responsible for youth, initiated in honour of International Youth Year. While the 5 regional meetings were convened by the United Nations, 20 follow-up meetings were convened by other regional and interregional intergovernmental organizations as a follow-up to the Year. LAS has convened several meetings of the Council of Arab Ministers responsible for Youth and Sports since 1983 and Conferences of Francophone Ministers of Youth and Sports have likewise been held. Eight Ibero-American youth minister conferences have been convened since 1985 and four Council of Europe conferences of European ministers responsible for youth since 1985. The Commonwealth Youth Programme has convened two interregional meetings of Commonwealth ministers responsible for youth (1992 and 1995), the Organization of African Unity (OAU) has held two regional meetings of African ministers responsible for youth and development (1993 and 1996). Other intergovernmental organizations, including the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and South Pacific Commission (SPC), have also convened meetings at the subregional level of ministers responsible for youth since 1992. However, the United Nations has not been involved in the sponsorship of these regional and interregional meetings of ministers responsible for youth. The Programme of Action has called for closer cooperation between these existing regional and interregional meetings of ministers responsible for youth and more direct involvement of the United Nations and its regional commissions in these processes and in cooperation with the relevant regional and interregional intergovernmental organizations.

79. On 24 April 1996 ESCAP adopted resolution 52/4, entitled "Promoting human resources development among youth in Asia and the Pacific", recalling both General Assembly resolution 50/81, in which the Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, and ESCAP resolution 50/7, in which the Commission adopted the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP region as revised in 1994.

80. Pursuant to that resolution, the United Nations Asia-Pacific Meeting on Human Resources Development for Youth was held by ESCAP in Beijing from 22 to 26 October 1996. It was organized in cooperation with the All-China Youth Federation, with financial assistance from the Government of China, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Christian Conference of Asia. The meeting was attended by representatives of ESCAP members and associate members who were senior officials in governmental ministries and departments responsible for youth matters. In addition, a number of international, regional, and national non-governmental youth organizations, intergovernmental youth organizations and agencies and organizations of the United Nations system attended the meeting. It marked the first time since 1984 that such a meeting was held by any of the five United Nations regional commissions for leaders of youth-related governmental, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations regarding the implementation of a major General Assembly resolution on youth.

81. The Meeting adopted the Beijing Statement on Human Resources Development for Youth as a contribution of Asia and the Pacific to the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System. It was also transmitted to the Forum as a contribution from Asia and the Pacific to the evolution of a global vision of the role of youth in development in the twenty-first century. The Statement was based on the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, which identified youth as a priority target group for human resource development in terms of each of three interdependent components comprising this process: (a) investment in human resources to enhance productive capabilities; (b) utilization of those human resources to produce increased output; and (c) consumption of the resulting outputs to improve the quality of life. The Beijing Statement was guided in particular by the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the proposals therein for integrated action to address more effectively the problems of young people and to enhance their participation in development.

82. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) held the Pan-African Conference on Youth and Development from 18 to 22 March 1996 in Addis Ababa. The participants discussed and made a number of recommendations in the following areas: the youth situation in Africa; peace, participation and development; youth, health and development; challenges for youth in the rural and urban sectors; youth and environment; opportunities for the girl child; and youth and African regional integration. The meeting also decided on modalities for the implementation of the recommendations, which include: short- and long-term measures at the national level, and short- and long-term policies and measures at the regional and intercontinental levels. It is important to note that the Conference decided to convene a bi-annual Pan-African Conference on Youth and Development to review and assess the progress achieved since the holding of the first Conference. Furthermore, youth organizations from 10 African countries along with the scouts participated in the Conference. They held their own youth forum at the Conference and decided to convene a Congress of the Pan-African Youth in Algeria in 1996 to revitalize the African youth movement so that it can mobilize all the African youth to participate actively in all processes aimed at addressing the political, social, cultural and economic challenges facing the continent. Towards that end, the Government of Algeria has offered to host the conference.

83. The European Community Action Programme for Cooperation in the Field of Education (SOCRATES) was launched in 1995 and runs to the end of 1999. Spanning the 15 member States of the European Union, as well as Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, it is the first European initiative covering education at all ages and forms part of a broader approach to the concept of lifelong learning.

C. Global level

84. The World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond calls for the Commission for Social Development, in its capacity as the subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council responsible for global social development issues, to play an important role as the focal point for the implementation of the Programme of Action. The Commission was called upon to

continue the policy-level dialogue on youth for policy coordination and for periodic monitoring of issues and trends. The General Assembly invited current regional and interregional conferences of ministers responsible for youth affairs in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia to intensify cooperation among each other and to consider meeting regularly at the international level under the aegis of the United Nations. The Assembly indicated that such meetings could provide an effective forum for a focused global dialogue on youth-related issues.

85. Youth-related bodies and organizations of the United Nations system were invited to cooperate with the above-mentioned conferences. In this connection, the existing ad hoc inter-agency working group on youth was requested to meet annually and to invite all concerned bodies and agencies of the United Nations system and related intergovernmental organizations to discuss ways and means by which they could promote the implementation of the Programme of Action on a coordinated basis. The Programme also indicated that effective channels of communication between non-governmental youth organizations and the United Nations system were essential for dialogue and consultation on the situation of youth and implications for the implementation of the Programme of Action. It recalled that the General Assembly had repeatedly stressed the importance of channels of communication in the field of youth. It recommended that the Youth Forum of the United Nations System contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action through the identification and promotion of joint initiatives to further its objectives so that they better reflect the interests of youth.

86. Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 44/59 of 8 December 1989 and 50/81, the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat, in partnership with the Austrian Federal Youth Council, convened the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System, bringing together approximately 400 representatives of non-governmental youth organizations, youth-related agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, and other intergovernmental organizations representing regional conferences of ministers responsible for youth affairs. Participants came from over 150 countries. The main objective of the Forum was to promote the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond by reflecting in particular the views of youth and the initiation of joint youth projects in this regard. The outcome consisted of a report and networking arrangements based on the recommendations adopted by the Forum for joint action regarding youth policy, youth communication, youth training and youth projects proposed by the Forum's 12 working groups based on the priority issues of the World Programme of Action for Youth.

87. A unique system of co-management was agreed upon bringing together representatives of non-governmental youth organizations and youth-related organizations and agencies of the United Nations system both to co-chair 12 working groups and to form a bureau to provide the overall direction of the representation of non-governmental youth organizations and youth-related organizations and agencies of the United Nations system.

88. A brief summary of the recommendations adopted by the World Youth Forum follows:

Recommendations

Working Group 1. Youth, education and leisure-time activities

The Forum affirmed education to be a "universal right". Delegates recommended the development of a multicultural curriculum to be used worldwide in both formal and informal education. Among other suggestions, their projects included training schemes, a "United Nations café" and a tool kit training programme to promote self-employment.

Declaring its intention to build on the momentum of the convergence in 1995 of the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year (1985), the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and the adoption by the General Assembly of the Action Programme for Youth, the Forum stressed that education and leisure required new methods of organization, financing and conceptualization to respond to the emerging challenges of the twenty-first century.

Working Group 2. Youth and employment

The Forum emphasized the seriousness of the employment problems confronting the world's youth. Participants called for United Nations funding for youth groups involved in specific programmes designed to promote youth employment and self-employment. They believe Governments should collaborate with youth to design programmes and that training should always take into consideration the requirements of the labour market.

Working Group 3. Youth, health and population

Affirming the need to invest in young people's health in order to ensure a transfer of health to future generations, the Forum called on the media and entertainment industry to promote positive role models and images that support rather than undermine health and development.

Younger health personnel should be included in policy-making, delegates said, also citing a need for refresher courses on youth concerns and exchanges programmes for youth involved in health- and population-related issues. One member of the working group on health and population said that anonymous screening for AIDS could break down people's reluctance to be tested, particularly in certain cultures.

Working Group 4. Youth, hunger and poverty

The Forum analysed the causes of global poverty. Unequal distribution of resources contributed to unemployment and underemployment, and a lack of international strategy and deficiencies in education and environmental protection exacerbated those problems. Participants said only an integrated global effort could solve those problems and called for efforts to identify and share available resources. The Forum made specific recommendations for both governmental and United Nations system actions to enhance the participation of youth in projects dealing with the eradication of hunger and poverty.

Working Group 5. Youth, environment and sustainable development

The Forum called for channels of communication in order to echo youth concerns on the environment and sustainable development. They called for a "Youth Project Contract" that would empower young people to forge partnerships with United Nations entities, organizations, governmental institutions, local authorities, non-governmental organizations and scientific institutions.

Working Group 6. Youth and human settlements

The Forum proposed that the recommendations of the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in the areas of shelter and urban planning be given higher priority on the agendas of all United Nations programmes, including the World Programme of Action for Youth. Delegates discussed the possibility of establishing training programmes on human settlements to promote common understanding between professionals and youth groups. They urged the establishment of a newsletter to disseminate Youth Habitat news and information.

Working Group 7. Youth and drug abuse

Prevention was the main focus of the Forum's recommendations on drug abuse, which proposed the development of "youth-friendly" methods to communicate anti-drug-abuse messages to young people at risk. Among its recommendations, the Forum called on the United Nations to invest in the future by supporting a range of youth projects on drug prevention around the world; to encourage training in drug prevention for youth leaders; to support workshops for teachers and youth groups to develop training manuals and information kits on drug prevention and to support non-judgemental youth programmes aimed at enabling young people to make informed choices in relation to substances.

Working Group 8. Juvenile delinquency and justice

The Forum asked that juvenile offenders be viewed as current and possibly future victims. Delegates stressed that hopelessness, desperation and adverse economic circumstances should be seen as contributing to juvenile criminality and called for training seminars for juvenile justice professionals, parents and other concerned adults.

They declared that imprisonment is "not an adequate solution" to ensure that youthful offenders are reintegrated into society and urged that non-governmental organizations be given access to young prisoners.

Working Group 9. Youth, tolerance, racism and xenophobia

The Forum called for the promotion of increased knowledge in order to counter intolerance. Stressing the equal value of each individual, participants called for a "tolerance network" database to help fight racism and xenophobia and for special efforts to break down ethnic and racial stereotypes. Youth was a resource that could be used to eliminate racism and prejudice in the world.

Delegates asked that the issue of intolerance be identified as an additional priority area to those already included in the World Programme of Action for Youth, and that young people put pressure on Governments to implement existing human rights instruments having a bearing on tolerance.

Working Group 10. Girls and young women

The Forum noted that its working group on girls and young women, that began with the participation of 29 women and one man, was paradoxically the only group at the Forum that did not reflect the organizers' expressed intention to achieve gender balance throughout the proceedings. It called for better dissemination of information to all women concerning international issues that affect women and girls, including "disaffected groups". Delegates wanted to see wider circulation of key international documents on women's rights, including various United Nations conventions. Women, they said, should be empowered to communicate at all levels as equal partners.

Working Group 11. Youth participation and youth rights

In addition to its call for youth representation in national delegations to the General Assembly and related conferences, the Forum proposed the creation of a United Nations "Youth Rights Charter" and the appointment by the Assembly of a special rapporteur to monitor youth rights for no less than three years. It recommended that young people should have the right to travel freely, including representatives of youth organizations.

Governments, the group recommended, should include human rights education in school curricula. Another proposal was the establishment of training courses for trainers in the field of human rights and for the development of relevant training materials to enhance youth participation and rights.

Working Group 12. Youth and communications

On the premise that information is power, the Forum said global communications among young people meant giving them a chance to empower themselves. To realize the vision of this worldwide dialogue, unhindered access to information for every young person must be ensured.

Noting that decentralized information reached the greatest possible number of young people, the group suggested a number a research projects aimed at identifying special channels of communication favoured by youth. Another suggestion was the establishment of an information centre for conflict areas.

New technologies, such as the Internet, should be improved so that young people could establish a real exchange on their situations and needs, leading to the setting up of a "world youth network". Particular emphasis was placed on the need to incorporate mass media education in school curricula in order to provide young people with criteria for understanding the working pitfalls of media.

Other international events

89. Another international event to promote the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, the Global Indigenous and Youth Cultural Olympics, was held at Manila from 24 February to 3 March 1996, with the theme "Partnership in action with youth for peace and sustainable development". During the meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Mr. Ibrahima Fall, launched the Programme on a global basis on behalf of the Secretary-General. In section II of the Manila Declaration adopted by that meeting (see A/51/293, annex), youth were affirmed the right to play an active part in all aspects of the social, economic, political, educational, cultural, spiritual and moral life as partners in the development of society. This section entitled "Youth" contained five parts: (a) education and health; (b) human rights and responsibilities; (c) participation; (d) peace and sustainable development; and (e) the arts, the media, and sports. The meeting indicated that all young people had the right to basic and relevant education and to health services in their own interest and that of society as a whole. It noted that indigenous youth as well as other disadvantaged and vulnerable youth should be protected and encouraged to participate in the life of society. In addition, the meeting encouraged Governments to implement youth entrepreneurship programmes.

III. REVIEW AND APPRAISAL: PROBLEMS ADDRESSED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Problems addressed

1. National level

90. At the national level, the present report has revealed at least six major obstacles to effective governmental action to implement this Programme of Action: (a) inadequate political will to treat both the problems and potentials of youth on an inter-sectoral basis; (b) lack of an integrated national youth policy drawing the various youth-related policies of the sectoral ministries and departments of the national Government and its provincial and local agencies; (c) insufficient training opportunities for personnel from the youth-related ministries and departments of the Government to effectively deal with youth needs and aspirations; (d) low budgetary support for the delivery of such youth policies to the target constituencies on a coordinated basis and involving the sharing of resources of youth-related departments; (e) problems of defining youth and its subgroups and their varied needs (adolescents aged 15-18, youth 19-24) and not confusing policies and programmes of children with those for and with youth; and (f) lack of systematic national reviews of the situation of youth (jointly by governmental and non-governmental organizations most concerned and with participation of the private sector, which has a social and economic interest in such surveys).

2. Regional level

91. At the regional level, there has been an uneven reaction by the regional commissions to General Assembly resolutions 49/154 and 50/81, which called on them to take action to both review and appraise the regional situations of youth and to design regional youth programmes of action to prepare for and follow up on the World Programme of Action in each region. A review of regional intergovernmental action on youth since 1985 has revealed that all of the major regional meetings of ministers responsible for youth have been convened by other regional intergovernmental organizations and not by the United Nations regional commissions. Only ESCAP has taken regional action to promote the World Programme of Action for Youth. The existing regional meetings of ministers responsible for youth do not, in fact, include all of the respective Member States in their meetings. The Latin American meetings do not include Member States from the Caribbean; the African meetings are often split between the Francophone and Anglophone States; and the Asian meetings are restricted to the subregions of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and do not include East Asia or the Pacific, while the West Asian meetings have not been held so frequently. With the exception of ESCAP, the activities of the regional commissions, regional offices of the youth-related organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and related regional intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have not been sufficiently coordinated especially to promote the Programme of Action in each region.

3. Global level

92. Finally, at the global level, in the 50-year history of the United Nations, there has never been a regular series of meetings under the aegis of the Organization to bring together the senior officials of governmental ministries and departments responsible for youth matters to provide a global focus on youth policies and programmes.

93. As of 1996, approximately 166 of the total of 185 Member States have youth-related departments and ministries. If there has been a lack of such a global platform at the governmental level, there has also been a lack of an effective global platform at the non-governmental and intergovernmental levels. Without the direct involvement of such constituencies most concerned, the World Programme of Action for Youth will remain on the shelf. Moreover, the youth-related operational activities of the United Nations have not been directly related to the global standards adopted on youth by the General Assembly and the global discussions have not been related to such operational projects.

B. Recommendations

1. National level

94. At the national level, the United Nations Youth Fund, as well as other youth-related funds in the United Nations system, could support national review meetings, especially in the least developed countries and at least in all regions of the South. Such meetings could bring together representatives of: (a) the youth-related ministries and departments of the national Governments (especially those concerned with education, health, employment and youth participation); (b) youth-related organizations and agencies of the United Nations system; (c) national non-governmental youth organizations; and (d) concerned private sector companies and industries. The discussions could focus on the national situation of youth and on the national policies and programmes of the participants regarding this situation of youth. The World Programme of Action for Youth could be reviewed and referred to in these discussions to better link national and global policies in this field and to design more appropriate programmes. The youth-related organizations and agencies of the United Nations system are invited to consider, support and follow up national youth programmes of action adopted by such meetings.

2. Regional level

95. At the regional level, the regional commissions are invited to act on the requests of the General Assembly to become more involved in both intergovernmental and non-governmental review meetings in this field and in each region, and likewise to support and follow up the regional youth programmes of action adopted by such meetings. The World Programme of Action for Youth calls upon regional non-governmental youth organizations, regional offices of bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and regional intergovernmental organizations concerned with youth to consider meeting on a biennial basis to review and discuss issues and trends and to identify proposals for regional and subregional cooperation. The regional commissions are invited to play an essential role through the provision of a suitable venue and appropriate input regarding regional action.

3. Global level

96. The recommendations of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond include the role of the Commission for Social Development in continuing its policy-level dialogue on youth for policy coordination and periodic monitoring of issues and trends; regular meetings at the international level, under the aegis of the United Nations, of ministers responsible for youth affairs, building on the current regional and interregional conferences of ministers responsible for youth affairs in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia; annual meetings of the existing ad hoc inter-agency group on youth in which all the bodies and agencies of the United Nations system concerned and related intergovernmental organizations can participate to discuss ways and means by which they can further and promote the implementation of the Programme of Action on a coordinated basis; meetings of

the Youth Forum of the United Nations System to contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action through the identification and promotion of joint initiatives to further its objectives so that they better reflect the interests of youth; and the role of the United Nations Youth Fund to support the implementation of the Programme of Action through pilot action to encourage the participation of youth in devising and carrying out operational projects.

97. By adopting the Programme of Action, the General Assembly has agreed to those recommendations. The time has now come to implement these global recommendations and to report to the Assembly through the Commission on progress achieved and obstacles encountered.

ANNEX

Status of implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond as at December 1996[a]

Afghanistan[b,c]
Albania[b,c]
Algeria[b,c]
Andorra[b,c]
Angola[b,c]
Antigua and Barbuda[b,c]
Argentina[b,c]
Armenia[c]
Australia[b,c,d]
Austria[b,c,d]
Azerbaijan[c]
Bahamas[b,d]
Bahrain[b,c]
Bangladesh[b,c,d]
Barbados[b,c,d]
Belarus[b,c]
Belgium[b,c,d]
Belize[b,c]
Benin[b,c]
Bhutan[c]
Bolivia[b,c,d]
Bosnia and Herzegovina[e]
Botswana[b,c,d]
Brazil[c]
Brunei Darussalam[b,c]
Bulgaria[b,c]
Burkina Faso[b,c,d]
Burundi[b,c]
Cambodia[e]
Cameroon[b,c]
Canada[b,c,d]
Cape Verde[c]
Central African Republic[b,c]
Chad[b,c]
Chile[b,c,d]
China[b,c,d]
Colombia[b,c]
Comoros[b,c]
Congo[b,c]
Costa Rica[b,c,d]
Côte d'Ivoire[b,c]
Croatia[b,c]
Cuba[b,c,d]
Cyprus[b,c,d]
Czech Republic[b,c]
Democratic People's Republic of Korea[b,c,d]
Denmark[b,c,d]
Djibouti[b,c]
Dominica[c]
Dominican Republic[e]
Ecuador[b,c]
Egypt[b,c,d]
El Salvador[c]
Equatorial Guinea[e]
Eritrea[e]
Estonia[c]
Ethiopia[b,c]
Fiji[b,c]
Finland[b,c,d]
France[b,c,d]
Gabon[b,c]
Gambia[b,c]
Georgia[c]
Germany[b,c,d]
Ghana[b,c,d]
Greece[b,c,d]
Grenada[c]
Guatemala[b,c]
Guinea[b,c]
Guinea-Bissau[c]
Guyana[b,c]
Haiti[b,c]
Honduras[b,c]
Hungary[b,c,d]
Iceland[b,c,d]
India[b,c,d]
Indonesia[b,c,d]
Iran (Islamic Republic of)[b,c,d]
Iraq[c]
Ireland[b,c,d]
Israel[b,c,d]
Italy[d]
Jamaica[b,c,d]
Japan[b,c,d]
Jordan[b,c]
Kazakstan[a]
Kenya[b,c]
Kuwait[c]
Kyrgyzstan[c]
Lao People's Democratic Republic[d]
Latvia[c]
Lebanon[b,c]
Lesotho[b,c]
Liberia[b,c]
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya[c]
Liechtenstein[b,c,d]
Lithuania[c]
Luxembourg[b,c,d]
Madagascar[b,c]
Malawi[b,c,d]
Malaysia[b,c,d]
Maldives[b,c]
Mali[b,c,d]
Malta[b,c,d]
Marshall Islands[b,c,d]
Mauritania[b,c]
Mauritius[b,c]

Mexico[a,c]
Micronesia (Federated States of)[b,c,d]
Monaco[b,c,d]
Mongolia[e]
Morocco[b,c]
Mozambique[b,c,d]
Myanmar[e]
Namibia[b,c]
Nepal[b,c]
Netherlands[b,c,d]
New Zealand[b,c,d]
Nicaragua[b,c,d]
Niger[e]
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Norway[b,c,d]
Oman[b,c]
Pakistan[b,c]
Palau[e]
Panama[b,c]
Papua New Guinea[b,c,d]
Paraguay[b,c]
Peru[b,c,d]
Philippines[b,c,d]
Poland[b,c,d]
Portugal[b,c,d]
Qatar[e]
Republic of Korea[b,c,d]
Republic of Moldova[b,c]
Romania[b,c,d]
Russian Federation[b,c,d]
Rwanda[b,c]
Saint Kitts and Nevis[b,c]
Saint Lucia[b,c]
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines[b,c]
Samoa[b,c]
San Marino[e]
Sao Tome and Principe[e]
Saudi Arabia[b,c]
Senegal[b,c]
Seychelles[b,c]
Sierra Leone[b,c]
Singapore[b,c]
Slovakia[b,c]
Slovenia[b,c]
Solomon Islands[b,c]
Somalia[e]
South Africa[b,c,d]
Spain[b,c,d]
Sri Lanka[b,c,d]
Sudan[b,c]
Suriname[b,c,d]
Swaziland[b,c]
Sweden[b,c,d]
Syrian Arab Republic[b,c,d]
Tajikistan[e]
Thailand[b,c]
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia[e]
Togo[b,c]
Trinidad and Tobago[b,c,d]
Tunisia[b,c]
Turkey[b,c]
Turkmenistan[e]
Uganda[b,c]
Ukraine[b,c]
United Arab Emirates[b,c,d]
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland[b,c,d]
United Republic of Tanzania[b,c,d]
United States of America[d]
Uruguay[b,c]
Uzbekistan[e]
Vanuatu[b,c]
Venezuela[b,c,d]
Viet Nam[b,c,d]
Yemen[b,c]
Yugoslavia[b,c]
Zaire[b,c]
Zambia[b,c]
Zimbabwe[b,c,d]

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[a] The data in the present annex have been drawn from the database on youth of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat, as well as from replies from Member States to a questionnaire sent by the Secretariat in 1996.

[b] Formulation of a national youth policy (cross-sectoral).

[c] Designation of a national youth coordinating mechanism (ministry, department, council, committee, etc.).

[d] Implementation of a national youth programme of action (operational, voluntary service).

[e] No data received on national youth policies, coordinating mechanisms or programmes of action.